



COMMONWEALTH OF
PUERTO RICO

Telecommunications Regulatory Board
Office of the Chairman

March 7, 2014

Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Rural Broadband Experiments Program
445 12th Street
SW Washington, DC 20554

To whom it may concern:

This letter is intended as an official expression of interest by the Puerto Rico Telecommunications Regulatory Board to participate in the Federal Communications Commission's proposed "Rural Broadband Experiments Funding Opportunity" program, as outlined in the January 31, 2014, FCC Technology Transitions Order.

Among our duties invested by law, we have to ensure that the people of Puerto Rico have access to better and more advanced telecommunication services in order to promote the economic development and general welfare of our island, and specifically that of unserved and underserved communities.

The lack of broadband access is a barrier to economic development for thousands of households in Puerto Rico's rural communities. We understand that developing broadband in these communities is vitally important to their economic progress.

We would like to assure that the Puerto Rico Telecommunications Regulatory Board has ample experience using state funds for the deployment of telecommunications facilities in rural areas. As part of the rural broadband experiment the Telecommunications Regulatory Board will not be directly competing against the service providers in Puerto Rico.

Below please find attached The Puerto Rico Telecommunications Regulatory Board's *Puerto Rico Rural Communities Broadband Access: Conduits to Development* program outline and funding request.

Sincerely,



Javier Rúa Jovet, Esq.
Chairman

